



THE GREENBELT BULLETIN

FY2011 BUDGET REVENUES



Property Taxes	Other Taxes	Service Charges	Lic. & Permits	Other Agen.	Fines	Misc. & Transfers
69.1¢	11.2¢	8.2¢	4.5¢	3.7¢	2.1¢	1.2¢

FY2011 BUDGET EXPENDITURES



General Govt.	Planning & C.D.	Public Safety	Public Works	Social Services	Recreation & Parks	Misc. & NonDept	Fund Transfers
10.1¢	4.2¢	41.6¢	12.2¢	3.3¢	20.5¢	2.9¢	5.2¢

from real property taxes, the drop in the real estate market over the past few years and the subsequent reassessment of real property values that occurred in 2009 at the near bottom of the real estate market means that real property taxes will likely be flat for the next three years. This situation will severely limit any growth in city revenues or expenditures until at least FY 2014.

On the other hand, throughout this budget process and in past budgets, the Council and staff have and are taking steps to ensure the city can provide excellent city services and has appropriate reserves to handle any unanticipated problems or downturns. A copy of the adopted budget can be viewed on the city's website, Greenbelt CityLink, www.greenbeltmd.gov.

FY2011 BUDGET SUMMARY

The Greenbelt City Council approved the budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011) on June 7th. A proposed budget was presented on April 12, 2010, and over the subsequent almost two months, the Council reviewed the budget at nine work sessions and held two public hearings.

The adopted budget of \$24,868,900 is \$445,500 or 1.76% lower than the FY 2010 budget in response to the current difficult economic times. In preparing the budget, lower revenues were anticipated due to a drop in residential property assessments, a reduction of over \$500,000 in State revenues to the city, and a number of other lower revenues such as hotel/motel tax receipts and corporate inventory taxes. The budget does include a 4/10ths cent tax rate increase to pay for a property tax credit program for low income residents started two years ago.

The budget funds core city services and avoids the use of layoffs or furloughs for classified city employees, though two vacant positions in the Public Works department will be eliminated. In preparing the budget, city staff were able to cut or reduce over \$800,000 in expenses to help balance the budget, though this meant not funding items such as the postal operation in the Municipal Building and the New Year celebration. In its review, the City Council was able to identify an additional \$77,000 in savings and directed these funds to be placed in reserves.

While the FY 2011 budget reflects tougher economic times than recent years for the city, the next two fiscal years (FY 2012 and 2013) are likely to be even more trying. With over 60% of the city's revenue coming

EARLY VOTING FOR 2010 ELECTION

In Person or By Mail

This fall, voters will have the opportunity to vote early in the Primary and General Elections.

PRIMARY ELECTION: Early voting will be available from **Friday, September 3rd** through **Thursday, September 9th** from 10am to 8pm. Early voting centers will be **closed** on Sunday, September 5th and Monday, September 6th.

GENERAL ELECTION: Early voting will be available from **Friday, October 22nd** through **Thursday, October 28th** from 10am to 8pm. Early voting centers will be **closed** on Sunday, October 24th.

LOCAL EARLY VOTING CENTERS:

College Park Community Center, 5051 Pierce Ave., College Park, MD 20740

Bowie Library, 15210 Annapolis Road, Bowie, MD 20715

VOTE BY MAIL: A voter may request that a ballot be sent by mail regardless of whether they have an excuse for not voting in person. They may send the ballot back by mail. For absentee ballot deadlines, go to <http://elections.state.md.us/voting/absentee.html> or contact your local Board of Elections at 301-430-8020.





HERE IS WHAT A RENTER SHOULD EXPECT

If you experience problems in your rental home, you may

MARYLAND LANDLORD AND TENANT LAW

SOME HELPFUL LINKS AND CONTACTS

State of Maryland publication "Landlords and Tenants. Tips on Avoiding Disputes" - <http://www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer/landlordTenantPDF.pdf>

To register a complaint regarding maintenance of your rental home, call the City of Greenbelt Department of Planning and Community Development at 301-345-5417.



Supplying the brochure electronically will help the city reduce its carbon footprint by reducing paper waste. It will also allow for easier updating of the brochure when programs change.

In addition to informing residents by mail about the availability of the brochure, you may subscribe to automatically receive an e-mail alert once a new brochure is available. E-mail alerts will be sent to current recreation program participants that have supplied their e-mail addresses and to anyone who wishes to subscribe to receive notification of the brochure by subscribing at www.greenbeltmd.gov/publications.

**VIEW THE CURRENT GREENBELT RECREATION ACTIVITY
GUIDE AT WWW.GREENBELTMD.GOV/RECREATION**

CITY OF GREENBELT PHONE NUMBERS

Community Center.....301-397-2208

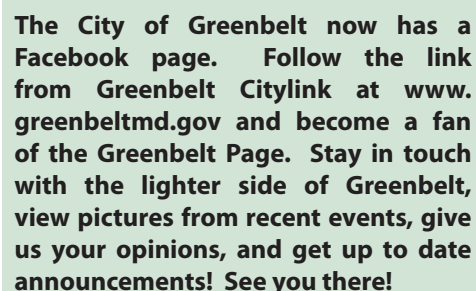
Aquatic & Fitness Center
.....301-397-2204

Springhill Lake Recreation Center
.....301-397-2212

Public Works..... 301-474-8004

Recycling..... 301-474-8308

Greenbelt Connection
.....301-474-4100





COOL OFF AT THE POOL!

There is no reason to suffer through another sweltering summer. The Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center is minutes away and available to

residents at very reasonable rates. Did you know that a resident family could get a half summer membership for only \$146? There are also special resident rates for youths, young adults, adults, seniors and single parent families. Our non-resident rates are also very competitive. You will find that these rates are definitely the best deal in town!

Come out to the Greenbelt Aquatic and Fitness Center, 101 Centerway for

FAMILY FUN NIGHTS

JULY 16TH AND AUGUST 13 FROM 8-10PM

Admittance for the whole family for only \$3.00.

Bring your pool toys and your family for an evening of fun.

Additional non-family members will be charged \$1.00 each.

In the event of inclement weather, event will be moved to the Indoor Pool.

For information on memberships and events call 301-397-2204.

NEW GREENBELT MUSEUM EXHIBIT



"GREEN FROM THE START: A HISTORY OF GARDENING IN GREENBELT"

A new exhibition by the Greenbelt Museum will open in the Community Center on August 1. This fun and colorful exhibition will explore the history of gardening in Greenbelt and the many ways that Greenbelt has been "green" from the start. The exhibition will take a look not only at the ways that Greenbelters have gardened over the years, but also how they prepared the food that they grew. The Museum is still collecting artifacts and photos related to gardening and cooking in Greenbelt. Do you have old seed catalogs, pamphlets on canning or gardening, or photos of your family gardening here? If so, please contact Museum Director, Megan Searing-Young at 301-507-6582 or museum@greenbeltmd.gov. For more information about the Museum, visit www.greenbeltmuseum.org. You can also find the Greenbelt Museum on Facebook!

Ride the Greenbelt Connection. Convenient and Affordable! Providing Service 7 Days a Week!

The Greenbelt Connection has now expanded its service to 7 days per week. The Connection, the City's Dial-a-Ride Service, is an affordable way to get door to door service to Greenbelt shopping, dining, events, doctor's appointments and more! Schedule your ride by calling

301-474-4100

Monday-Friday 8:00am-3:30pm

Saturdays 9:00am-5:00pm

Sundays 9:00am-4:00pm



One Way Rates:

\$1.00 Citizens with Disabilities

\$1.00 Senior Citizens and Children 6-18

\$2.00 Other Citizens

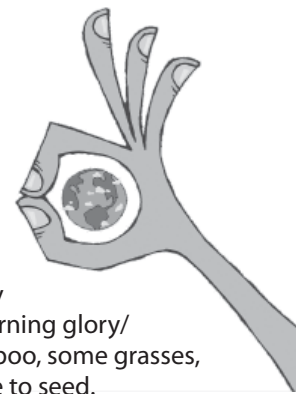
NEWSLETTER INPUT: The Greenbelt Bulletin is published by the City of Greenbelt, City Manager's Office, 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770. We want your story ideas! Please let us know if there are any topics that you would like to see covered in the Greenbelt Bulletin. Please refer all questions, comments or suggestions about this newsletter to Beverly Palau, Public Information and Communications Coordinator, 240-542-2026 or bpalau@greenbeltmd.gov.

Postal Customer



GREEN STEPS

Stepping Together Towards a Sustainable Society



REDUCE YOUR WASTE BY COMPOSTING

WHY IT IS GOOD TO COMPOST:

Composting is an easy way to recycle your yard and kitchen wastes and is a critical step in reducing the volume of garbage needlessly sent to landfills for disposal. We could reduce the amount of waste brought to the landfill by 30% if we all composted.

It costs the City of Greenbelt \$54 per ton of waste that goes to the landfill. It costs us nothing to compost.

- Compost is a great soil amendment. Dig it into the soil prior to planting
- It can be used as a top dressing during the growing season. Add around the base of the plants
- It can be sprinkled on lawns as a top dressing
- It can also top dress house plants.

MATERIALS THAT CAN BE COMPOSTED:

- Greens- fruit and vegetable peelings, eggshells, coffee grounds, tea bags, and grass clippings
- Browns-autumn leaves, dried weeds (no seeds), wood chips, shredded newspaper, and cardboard
- Avoid meat products, fats, and dairy products. They do compost, but take longer and might attract unwanted pests.

MATERIALS THAT CAN NOT BE COMPOSTED:

- Chemically treated wood products (pressure treated wood – arsenic, chromium, copper, wood treated with creosote or 'penta' preservative)

- Diseased plants - you don't want to infect next year's garden.
- Pernicious weeds (unless they are dead and dry) such as morning glory/ bindweed, sheep sorrel, bamboo, some grasses, ivy. No weeds that have gone to seed.
- Human and Pet waste - they contain disease organisms (unless you are an experienced 'hot pile' composter).

COMPOSTING BINS/SYSTEMS:

The ideal compost pile size is a cubic yard. There is a huge range of compost pile styles and systems, from the bare pile to store-bought units. When buying a system consider:

- Single or multiple bins
- How much material you have to compost
- Which system fits your preferences for neatness, attractiveness, and convenience

CHECK OUT THESE RESOURCES FOR COMPOSTING HELP

- <http://vegweb.com/composting>
- www.cityfarmer.org
- http://compost.css.cornell.edu/Composting_homepage.html
- Composting list serve: send email with no subject or signature to listproc@listproc.wsu.edu. The message of your email should read "subscribe compost yourfirstname yourlastname"
- Organic Gardening Magazine
- Contact Luisa Robles, Recycling Coordinator at 240-542-2153.

GREENBELT CITY COUNCIL: Mayor: **Judith "J" Davis**, jdavis@greenbeltmd.gov, Mayor Pro Tem : **Emmett Jordan**, ejordan@greenbeltmd.gov, Council Members: **Konrad Herling**, kherling@greenbeltmd.gov, **Leta Mach**, lmach@greenbeltmd.gov, **Silke Pope**, spope@greenbeltmd.gov, **Edward Putens**, eputens@greenbeltmd.gov, **Rodney Roberts**, rroberts@greenbeltmd.gov